

## Message Text

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14-L  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 L-03 H-02 INR-07 PM-04 PRS-01

SP-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-05 OMB-01 USIA-06

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R 050623Z NOV 75  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6887  
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
USUN NEW YORK 775  
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 7445

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: UN, KS, KN, AS  
SUBJ: AUSTRALIAN UN VOTE ON KOREA - 30TH UNGA

REF: CANBERRA 7358

1. ON NOV. 5 WE MET WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY ROWLAND AND FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY WOODARD (FOREIGN MINISTER WILLESEE COMPELLED TO CANCEL SCHEDULED MEETING) TO REGISTER U.S. DISPLEASURE OVER GOA SHIFT IN VOTING ON QTE. UNFRIENDLY RESOLUTION. END QTE WOODARD SAID THAT DFA HAD MADE DECISION TO VOTE QTE YES END QTE ON QTE FRIENGLY RESOLUTION END QTE AND QTE NO END QTE ON QTE HOSTILE RESOLUTION END QTE ON OCTOBER 13 AND DECIDED THAT AMBASSADOR HARRY SHOULD EXPLAIN GOA POSITION EARLY IN UN DEBATE. HOWEVER, IT TURNED OUT THAT PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM HAD NOT GIVEN HIS APPROVAL TO THIS POSITION. WHITLAM HAD DECIDED TO KEEP THE QUESTION UNDER REVIEW ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT WAS NECESSARY FOR THE GOA TO KEEP ITS LINES OPEN TO BOTH KOREAS QTE FOLLOWING 20 YEARS OF CONFRONTATION. END QTE WHITLAM WAS ESPECIALLY ANXIOUS TO AVOID TAKING ANY STEP WHICH COULD MAKE EVENTUAL AGREEMENT ON KOREA MORE DIFFICULT. ACCORDING TO WOODARD, FOR SOME INEXPLICABLE REASON,  
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NEITHER THE DFA NOR THE FOREIGN MINISTER LEARNED OF WHITLAM'S

POSITION UNTIL OCTOBER 30.

2. WHEN THE AUSTRALIAN UN MISSION PHONED FROM N.Y. SEEKING GUIDANCE ON THE KOREAN QUESTION FOLLOWING THE NORTH KOREAN'S THREAT TO BREAK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, PARLIAMENT WAS IN SESSION. THE DFA REPRESENTATIVE HAD TO PASS NOTES IN TO WHITLAM SEEKING HIS GUIDANCE. WHITLAM REITERATED HIS ORDERS NOT TO DO ANYTHING LIKELY TO HARM GOA RELATIONS WITH EITHER OF THE TWO KOREAS. THEREFORE DFA OFFICIAL ADVISED AMB HARRY TO ABSTAIN ON THE QTE HOSTILE RESOLUTION. END QTE ACCORDING TO WOODARD, THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE GOA ARE ESPECIALLY DISTRESSED BY CHARGES THAT THE GOA GAVE IN TO DPRK PRESSURE OR BLACK MAIL BY CHANGING ITS U.N. VOTE. WOODARD CLAIMED THAT NORTH KOREAN PRESSURE DID NOT ENTER INTO THE DECISION TO ABSTAIN AT ALL. THE GOA WAS MERELY FOLLOWING THE POLICY PREVIOUSLY DETERMINED BY THE PRIME MINISTER. THE PM WOULD RESENT ANY INTIMATION THAT THE GOA HAD YIELDED TO BLACKMAIL.

3. WOODARD SAID IT WAS VERY UNLIKELY THE GOA WOULD CHANGE ITS VOTE IN THE U.N. PLENARY. AUSTRALIA'S KOREAN POLICY WAS NOW CONSISTENT WITH THAT OF ASEAN NATIONS, THE SWEDES, AND OTHERS AND WAS LIKELY TO REMAIN SO. THE GOA DID NOT, OF COURSE, RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF AN EVENTUAL COMPROMISE ON THE ISSUE.

4. CONCERNING THE DEPARTURE OF NORTH KOREA'S DIPLOMATIC STAFF FROM CANBERRA, WOODARD SAID THAT THE GOA HAD REJECTED A NORTH KOREAN NOTE WHICH WAS ALMOST IDENTICAL TO THAT TRANSMITTED IN CANBERRA 7322. THE GOA HAS MADE IT CLEAR IN PEKING AND PYONGYANG THAT THEY DO NOT RPT NOT EXPECT ANY REPLY TO THEIR REJECTION NOTE. THE GOA DOES NOT RPT NOT PLAN TO LET THE NORTH KOREANS BACK INTO CANBERRA PRIOR TO NEGOTIATION OF AN AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD PREVENT A REOCCURENCE OF THIS HIGHLY EMBARRASING KOREAN WALKOUT. THE GOA ALSO PLANS TO NEGOTIATE PROTECTIVE CLAUSES FOR AUSTRALIA'S DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL IN PYONGYANG. IN THE MEANTIME, THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN PYONGYANG REPORTS THAT THEY ARE OPERATING NORMALLY.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VOTING, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975CANBER07445  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750383-1003  
**From:** CANBERRA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 97  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 CANBERRA 7358  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AUSTRALIAN UN VOTE ON KOREA - 30TH UNGA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, KS, KN, AS, UN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006